

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

Claims 186-199 are pending.

II. Examiner Interview Summary

Applicants conducted a telephonic interview with the Examiner on March 7, 2007.

Applicants proposed amendments to Claim 186 as made above. The Examiner indicated that the amendment should address the current rejections. The Examiner also indicated that additional searches might be made in an effort to identify prior art.

Applicants submit herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner make these references of official record in this application.

IV. The Claims Are Enabled and Definite

The Examiner rejected Claims 186-199 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for decontaminating an area, allegedly does not reasonably provide enablement for protecting a surface (Office Action at page 2). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Nonetheless, without acquiescing to the Examiner's arguments and solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process and while reserving the right to prosecute the original or similar claims in the future, Applicants herein amend Claim 186 to recite a method for decontaminating a surface of a human of *Herpes simplex I* virus.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 186 is enabled and that the rejection of Claim 186 and claims dependent thereon should be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejected Claims 186-199 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Specification clearly defines what the term "surface of a human" means in the context of the claims. For example, the Specification describes the surface of


a human as both the outermost boundaries (e.g., skin, mucosal cells and tissues and hair) as well as the inner membranes (e.g., digestive tract, vascular tissues) that are capable of being contacted with a composition of the invention (See, e.g., Specification at page 17, lines 28-29; page 18, lines 1-2 and 25-30; and page 19, lines 1-3, among other places).

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 186-199 are definite and request that the claims be passed to allowance.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants have addressed all grounds for rejection and Applicants' claims should be passed to allowance. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at (608) 218-6900.

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Tyler J. Sisk
Registration No. 59,850

MEDLEN & CARROLL, LLP
101 Howard Street, Suite 350
San Francisco, California 94105
608/218-6900